

TYPHOONS AND DEPRESSIONS

ONE FORMOSA AND ONE HONG KONG TYPHOON IN
AUGUST, 1929

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The most important typhoons that have visited the Far East during this month of August up to the 29th were one that traversed Formosa on the 11th, and one that struck Hong Kong on the 22d.

Formosa typhoon: August 7 to 18.—This typhoon, which was not so severe, but rather an ordinary typhoon, was clearly noticed on our Weather Maps of August 7 over the Pacific not far from 127° longitude E. and 19° latitude N. It moved WNW. on the 8th and NNW. from the 9th until 6 a. m. of the 12th. It passed near to the northeast of Basco in the afternoon of the 9th. The barometric minimum reported from that station was 742.9 mm. (29.25 inches) with strong winds from the west quadrants. The center of the typhoon traversed the northern part of Formosa in the morning of the 11th. On the 12th the typhoon moved to NW. or NW. by W., and then on the 13th and 14th it recurved northeastward to the southwest of Shanghai, and traversed the Yellow Sea, Korea, and the Japan Sea on the 15th to 17th.

The approximate position of the center at 6 a. m. of the 8th to 18th was as follows:

August 8, 6 a. m. 126° 00' longitude E., 19° 00' latitude N.
 August 9, 6 a. m. 123° 05' longitude E., 20° 25' latitude N.
 August 10, 6 a. m. 122° 05' longitude E., 22° 10' latitude N.
 August 11, 6 a. m. 121° 30' longitude E., 24° 10' latitude N.
 August 12, 6 a. m. 120° 30' longitude E., 27° 00' latitude N.
 August 13, 6 a. m. 118° 55' longitude E., 28° 10' latitude N.
 August 14, 6 a. m. 118° 20' longitude E., 28° 45' latitude N.
 August 15, 6 a. m. 120° 00' longitude E., 31° 10' latitude N.
 August 16, 6 a. m. 123° 25' longitude E., 34° 35' latitude N.
 August 17, 6 a. m. 126° 55' longitude E., 38° 00' latitude N.
 August 18, 6 a. m. 140° 00' longitude E., 43° 55' latitude N.

Hong Kong typhoon: August 19 to 22.—This typhoon was very small in diameter, but very severe, at least while passing near Pratas and close to Hong Kong. As it was so small it is impossible at present to know whether it existed or not before the 19th. It is likewise impossible

to know whether it was a well-developed typhoon when the center passed south of Basco as we have no observations made between Basco and Camiguin Island in the afternoon of the 19th. The observations of Basco together with those made on board the steamers *Pathfinder* and *Bustamante* showed clearly at 6 a. m. of the 19th that there was a small depression of typhoon center over the Pacific near the Balintang Channel to the east-southeast of Basco and northeast of Aparri. This small center entered the Balintang Channel in the afternoon of the same day moving westward. At 6 a. m. of the 20th our Weather Map showed the same small depression or typhoon over the China Sea west of Balintang Channel.

At 6 a. m. of the 21st wireless reports received from the steamer *Laomedon* confirmed the existence of a small typhoon very near 118° longitude E. and 20° latitude N. moving still westward. Suddenly after 2 p. m. the typhoon changed its direction to NNW. as it was evident from the observations of Pratas and those of the steamer *Laomedon*. But after 10 p. m. of the same day it inclined again westerly moving straight to Hong Kong with a WNW. or NW. by W. direction. The winds of Pratas backed quite rapidly from NE. to N., NW., W., SSW., and SSE. from 6 a. m. of the 21st to 6 a. m. of the 22d. The center passed very few miles to the south of Hong Kong at about 1.30 p. m. of the 22d. The barometric minimum recorded there was 735.1 mm. (28.94 inches) and the hurricane winds from the east quadrants acquired the maximum velocity of 120 miles per hour. It is considered as the worst typhoon experienced in Hong Kong during the last six years.

The approximate position of the center during the period August 19 to 22 was as follows:

August 19, 6 a. m. 123° 35' longitude E., 19° 50' latitude N.
 August 19, 2 p. m. 122° 40' longitude E., 19° 50' latitude N.
 August 20, 6 a. m. 119° 35' longitude E., 19° 50' latitude N.
 August 20, 2 p. m. 118° 30' longitude E., 19° 50' latitude N.
 August 21, 6 a. m. 118° 25' longitude E., 19° 50' latitude N.
 August 21, 2 p. m. 117° 30' longitude E., 20° 00' latitude N.
 August 21, 10 p. m. 116° 50' longitude E., 21° 20' latitude N.
 August 22, 6 a. m. 115° 25' longitude E., 22° 00' latitude N.
 August 22, 2 p. m. 114° 00' longitude E., 22° 20' latitude N.